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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BUILDING DEPARTMENT

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1956

BOSTON, May 1, 1957.

HON. JOHN B. HYNES,
Mayor of the City of Boston.

SIR:

In accordance with the provisions of section 115, chapter 479 of the Acts of 1938, as amended, I submit herewith a brief report of the activities of the Building Department during the year 1956.

THOMAS J. HUGHES,
Building Commissioner.

Boston City Messenger
Feb. 28, 1958

FOREWORD

Chapter 2 of the Ordinance of 1954 set up within the Building Department a "Public Safety Commission" consisting, *ex officio*, of the Director of Administrative Services, the Building Commissioner, the Health Commissioner, the Fire Commissioner and the Chairman of the Boston Traffic Commission. While this commission is in the Building Department it is not under the jurisdiction of the Building Commissioner. Its function is to coordinate the work and duties of the departments concerned with the aim of more efficient and concerted action by the departments.

As a unit of the Public Safety Commission there was established a "Committee on Licenses" consisting of the Building Commissioner, the Fire Commissioner, and the Chairman of the Boston Traffic Commission. This committee exercises the powers and performs the duties formerly vested in the Board of Street Commissioners as to licensing the storage and sale of inflammables and explosives, as well as for operation and maintenance of garages, public and private, service stations, lubricatoriums, and repair shops and the open-air parking of automobiles.

This same ordinance placed in the Building Department, but not under the jurisdiction of the Building Commissioner, the Board of Appeal, the Board of Examiners and the Board of Examiners of Gas Fitters and transferred to the Building Department the Electrical Inspection Division of the Fire Department. By this transfer the Building Commissioner was vested with all the powers and duties formerly exercised by the Commissioner of Wires and the Fire Commissioner with respect to electrical installations in the City of Boston.

The Street Numbering Section of the Public Works Department was likewise transferred to the Building Department on January 1, 1955.

DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION

As the result of a survey conducted by the Administrative Services Department under the direction of his Honor, the Mayor, in the interest of increased efficiency, an internal reorganization of the Building Department was effected on January 1, 1955. The functions and services of the department were divided into five general groups —

Administration and General Services

Technical Services

Construction and Safety Inspections

Mechanical Inspections

Electrical Inspections

The administrative and general services group is charged with the proper functioning of the department, carrying on all routine office procedures and maintaining records of the activities of the department. All licenses and permits are processed and issued by this group.

The technical services group passes on all applications and plans for permits for the erection, alteration, and repairing of buildings and structures. It also conducts examinations and tests of materials and methods used in construction of buildings and makes recommendations to the Building Commissioner as to approval or disapproval of such methods and materials.

The construction and safety inspections group, comprising the head of the division, two chief building inspectors, one chief egress inspector, and a staff of building, egress and zoning inspectors, inspects and examines all buildings and structures in process of erection, repair, alteration, or demolition. It also inspects all buildings as to proper and sufficient means of egress in relation to the construction and occupancy of such structures.

The mechanical inspections section is charged with the inspection of all mechanical functions in connection with the erection or alteration of buildings and structures. It inspects all installations or extensions of plumbing, gasfitting, elevator, and sprinkler systems.

The electrical inspections group examines and inspects all electrical work, both interior and exterior, which come under the control of the Building Department.

In accordance with an Ordinance passed by the City Council and effective as of December 1, 1956, there was established a revised schedule of fees for permits and licenses issued by the department. This revised schedule is expected to bring about a marked increase in the revenue of the department, though falling far short of making the department self-supporting.

FEES FOR LICENSES AND PERMITS EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 1, 1956

In accordance with Chapter 7 of the Ordinances of 1956, the following fees for licenses and permits are established effective December 1, 1956:

Appeal to Board of Appeal under Building Law (Ch. 479 of 1938 as amended)	\$15 00
Appeal to Board of Appeal under Zoning Law (Ch. 488 of 1924 as amended)	25 00
Builder's or Mechanic's License —	
Original (or renewal for which examination is required)	10 00
Renewal	3 00
Building Permit —	
Regular — \$2.00 plus \$1.00 per \$500.00 of cost. \$2,002.00 maximum.	
Amendment — \$2.00 plus \$1.00 per \$500.00 of cost, but total of original and all amendments not to exceed \$2,000.00 plus \$2.00 primary fee.	
Special Foundation Permit	5 00
Building Demolition Permit — Primary fee, \$3.00, additional fee of \$3.00 for each full story and an additional fee of \$1.00 for each full five thousand cubic feet.	
Building Moving Permit — \$5.00 plus \$3.00 for each 5,000 cubic feet in the building.	
Permit to Change Building Occupancy (Alteration additional fee)	5 00
Building Plan Inspection Fee — Group I Occupancy	1 00
Other	2 00
Copies or Duplicates of Licenses and Permits	1 00
Dynamo, Engine or Generator Installation Permit	5 00
Gasfitting Installation, Alteration or Repair Permit — \$2.00 plus \$0.50 for each appliance or fixture.	

Gasfitter's License —

Master — Original (or reexamination)	\$10 00
Renewal	3 00

Journeyman — Original (or reexamination)	5 00
Renewal	1 00

Gravel Removal (gravel, loam or sand)	5 00
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Heating Installation Permit — \$2.00 per boiler, furnace, heater or other heat-producing apparatus.

Immediate Action Permits, including fire escapes, connecting balconies, signs, projections, etc.	{ \$1.00 plus \$1.00 per \$500.00 of cost.
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Application for Approval of Location of Home for Sick and Aged and similar occupancies (plus advertising)	25 00
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Plumbing Installation, Alteration or Repair Permit — New plumbing system \$5.00; otherwise \$2.00, plus in either case \$0.50 per fixture. \$300.00 maximum.

Transfer of Permit	2 00
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NOTE: Appurtenances which should not be classed as fixtures would be those in the category of floor drains, sand traps, grease traps, conductors, etc.

Permit for Installation, Alteration or Repair of Sprinkler System — \$2.00 plus \$1.00 per \$500.00 of cost.

Use of Premises Permit — (Construction or alteration, additional fee)	3 00
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Welder's Certificate of Qualification	3 00
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Elevator or Escalator Installation, Alteration or Repair Permit —

Elevator Installation	{ \$12.00 for first;
Escalator	{ \$3.00 each additional
Major Alterations	{ in all cases

The following listed operations shall be considered to be major alterations or repairs:

Installing new types of brakes; new controller; new machine automatic; new motor; new car; new car cab; new overhead supports; new overhead platform; new safeties or governor; new rails; new drum or traction sheave; new counterweight enclosures; new landing doors; new car gates; new electric switches of any kind; new hoist, counterweight, governor or safety cables; new piston rods; new hydraulic pressure tanks; new hydraulic pumps and regulators.

Remodeling shaftway enclosure; filling in excess wall space in shaftway; dumb-waiter door replacements; increasing capacity of car; increasing speed of car; changing type of car; changing type of installation; renewal of links or chains; extension of travel of existing elevator; relocating machine room of existing elevator; changing rails from wood to steel; any change in signal system; any additions to existing controller; any reabbating job; all accident repairs; all fire repairs.

Builders Hoist	\$2.00 per car
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Dumb-Waiters — Original installation and subsequent repairs	\$1.00 per car
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Elevator and Escalator Inspection —

Usual hours	\$8.00 for first; \$2.00 for each additional
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Outside of regular hours	{ \$12.00 for first; \$3.00 for each additional
All Cases	No maximum
Elevator Operator's License —	
Original (and reexamination)	\$2 00
Renewal	1 00

ELECTRICAL

Primary Fee	\$1 00
Service	1 00
Main Switch, or like circuit breaker —	
100A	1 00
Each additional 100A	1 00
Maximum fee	20 00
Meter Loop	1 00
Panel Board, if no branch circuits installed	1 00
Branch Circuit	1 00
Lighting, 500 watt or over, arc lamp, mercury vapor lamp	1 00
Lighting fixture	25
Lighting circuit switch outlet	25
Lighting circuit plug receptacle	25
Sign — (plus converter and transformer charge, plus \$1 for each kilowatt of aggregate capacity of fluorescent tubes and incandescent lamps)	1 00
Heat, per kilowatt	25
Minimum fee \$0.50	
50 KW limit on single receptacle.	
2 or more devices under same permit, \$0.25 for each kilowatt of aggregate capacity.	
Welders are all transformer type.	
Motors, per horsepower	25
Minimum fee \$0.50	
50 H.P. limit on single receptacle	
2 or more under same permit, \$0.25 for each H.P. of aggregate capacity.	
Generator, rectifier or other battery charging device —	
10 KW or less	2 00
Over 10 KW to 25 KW inclusive	3 00
Over 25 KW to 50 KW inclusive	5 00
Over 50 KW	10 00
Also charge for motors and transformers, if any.	

Transformers, ignition, neon sign, outline lighting or signaling	\$0 50
10 KVA or less	2 00
Over 10 KVA to 25 KVA inclusive	3 00
Over 25 KVA to 50 KVA inclusive	5 00
Over 50 KVA	10 00
Temporary permit, 30 days or less	1 00
Plus 1/3 of permanent fee as indicated above.	
Reinspection after correction of defective work	2 00
Maintenance Permit	1 00

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

License for Flammable and/or Explosive Materials —

Primary fee of \$20.00 plus additional fee equal, in case of fluids,
to —

\$6.00 per 1,000 gallons for first 10,000 gallons;
 \$3.00 per 1,000 gallons for next 90,000 gallons;
 \$3.00 per 10,000 gallons for next 4,900,000 gallons;
 \$3.00 per 100,000 gallons over 5,000,000 gallons;
 and, in case of solids and gases, to —
 \$4.00 per 100 cubic feet for first 1,000 cubic feet;
 \$2.00 per 1,000 cubic feet for next 499,000 cubic feet;
 \$2.00 per 10,000 cubic feet over 500,000 cubic feet.

Garage Permit —

Public and Business Garages.	In all cases, \$50.00 plus \$5.00 for each
Repair Shops;	inspection, repair, lubricating, or wash
Lubritorium; Inspection and	stand bay and \$1.00 for each of the
Washstand Garages.	first 100 parking or storage spaces and
	\$25.00 for each 100 additional parking
	or storage spaces.

One or Two Car Garage Appurtenant to Dwelling \$5 00

Other Private Garages \$15.00 plus \$1.00 for each bay.

Open Air Parking Space License —

\$15.00 plus \$0.25 per car per month in all cases.

BEACON HILL ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

Certificate of Appropriateness, Major Construction or Re- construction	\$35 00
All other construction	5 00
Notice of demolition	25 00

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

January 2, 1957

The Public Safety Commission, established and organized in May of 1954, has been the guiding reins in the formulation and initiation of general safety measures for the benefit of the general public, with the Building, Fire, Health and Traffic Departments coordinating work programs wherever feasible. In connection with our operations, we are pleased to submit herewith our Third Annual Report for the year commencing January 1, 1956 and ended December 31, 1956.

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2, Section 25, of the Ordinances of 1954, a meeting was held once each month on the following dates, with a special meeting called on August 23, 1956:

January 24	July 24
February 21	August 7
March 20	August 23 (Special Meeting)
April 24	September 25
May 29	October 30
June 26	November 12
	December 18

During the year, Charles J. Fox retired, and John A. Breen, the new Director of Administrative Services, appointed by his Honor, the Mayor, in April, took over the duties as Chairman. Charles A. Callanan, Secretary to the Commission, resigned to accept a position as Superintendent of Construction for the School Buildings Department, and a new member, appointed by his Honor, the Mayor, as Building Commissioner, Thomas J. Hughes, joined the Commission in October. He was designated as Secretary to the Commission on November 13 and the Acting Secretary, Lawrence W. Costello, was requested to continue his services as Acting Secretary, to which he agreed. The Acting Secretary's duties, as in the past, consist in taking the minutes of the meetings, handling correspondence for the Commission and compiling the Annual Report.

Subjects discussed during the year covered various phases of public safety, with definite action being taken

on several recommendations, and further deliberations and studies being required on several others. The subject of public safety has become one of the most important studies of all large municipalities throughout the country and, to keep in line with the many new features and devices being inaugurated each day for the benefit of the public's safety, requires constant research, vigilance and alertness on the part of those delegated with the responsibility of safeguarding the health and life of its people. The Public Safety Commission is well aware of this fact and has been performing an excellent service to the public since its establishment in 1954, with little or no publicity attached to its operations, and with progressive safety measures the main theme of its studies, deliberations and action, as will be attested to by the following subjects taken up during 1956:

1. NEW HOUSING CODE

Several public hearings were held the early part of the year regarding a proposed Code for Minimum Standards for Human Habitation, now known as the New Housing Code. Considerable time and effort were contributed by the Health and Building Commissioners in formulating a code to comply with federal requirements and, at the same time, meet the requirements for good health, good sanitation and good fire prevention measures which, ultimately, will result in maximum protection for the greater part of the public. The new code was adopted the latter part of the year and is now being put into effect.

Under the Urban Renewal Law, it is necessary to have a continuing inspectional program in order to secure federal funds in any substantial amount and, in connection with these requirements, the Chairman of the Commission, Mr. Breen, suggested that an effort be made to coordinate the work of all inspectional units in the city, including social workers from the Hospital, Institutions and Welfare Departments, so that the city would be saved the expense of hiring individuals to fulfill the federal requirements. A meeting has been arranged for the early part of January, 1957, to be participated in by the Health, Fire and Building Commissioners and the supervisors of all inspectional units of the city, with a view to acquainting

each and every one with the provisions of the new Housing Code. By acquainting this group with the major provisions of the Code, it will then be possible to report any infractions or violations to some central agency for action. It is believed that a workable plan will be formulated, thereby obviating the necessity of hiring additional inspectors to comply with the provisions of the federal statute. A thorough knowledge of the new housing code by a greater number of individuals will increase interest in this all-important function and will eliminate the necessity of inaugurating an expensive inspectional program.

2. INCINERATOR CONTROL

It was found, during the first part of the year, that many individuals and various types of organizations throughout the city were utilizing incinerators adjacent to their homes, without realizing that a license was required. Through the joint efforts of the Fire Department and the Health Department, this condition has been corrected to a large extent and, with the issuance of a pamphlet by the Administrative Services Department, sometime during the year 1957, listing all licenses and permits required by the city government for various usages, it should be possible to acquaint the public and all city agencies with all statutory requirements, and negligence on the part of any individual or organization will be greatly minimized.

The possibility of destroying the bodies of dead animals through incineration was also given consideration and the matter was brought to the attention of the Animal Rescue League. It might be well to note here that the Animal Rescue League disposes of some three cubic yards of dead animals daily and it has been customary to dispose of the same by a rendering process, but the hair of the animals had been clogging the machinery to such an extent that this process has been discontinued and the League was required to send such animals to Lowell and Peabody for disposal. It is believed that the incinerator process will be a more efficient and cleaner method of disposing of dead animals in the future. While on the subject of animals, we are happy to point out that after a group of health officials from various sections of the country visited the Haymarket Square Animal Laboratories in the early part of 1956

they were so impressed with the cleanliness and upkeep of the same that it prompted the remark that, in their opinion, they were the cleanest and best-kept laboratories in the country.

3. ANTI-POLIOMYELITIS PROGRAM

Plans were inaugurated during the winter months to make a concentrated fight against polio and, in this connection and at the recommendation of this Commission, a special appropriation was provided in the amount of \$28,000 to cover the services of additional doctors, nurses and clerks, and the acquisition of medical equipment, such as hypodermic needles, syringes, sterilizers and other medication. Although the United States government, the State Department of Public Health and the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis jointly made vaccine available, without cost, for all children under 15 years of age and expectant mothers, it was realized and anticipated that, in order to perform the best service possible, it would be necessary to secure these additional funds. To indicate an example of money well spent in the matter of public health, we are proud to present the results of this program.

	1955	1956
Number of Inoculations	20,592	387,128
Number of Cases	834	4
Number of Deaths	32	0

Although he is a member of this Commission, Dr. Cauley, the Health Commissioner, nevertheless, is to be congratulated by the remaining members for a job well done, as it was under his supervision that the program was followed through to a successful conclusion for the year 1956. It is planned to continue the Inoculations Program during the present year and subsequent years until all age groups, from teenagers up, have been given the protection which has proven so successful among the children and expectant mothers.

4. ESTABLISHMENT OF A PUBLIC HEALTH COUNCIL

Discussions during the years 1954-55 resulted in the establishment of a Public Health Council on March 27, 1956. The new Public Health Council consists of nine members appointed by the Mayor, of whom at least one is a registered physician, one a registered dentist,

one a representative of an industry engaged in handling food, one a representative of another industry, one a representative of labor and one a housewife. The Commission believes that the establishment of such a Council will result in the tightening of controls over all matters of public health and will, through study and observation, keep the citizens and the city officials alert to all new procedures and policies being followed by other health agencies throughout the city and country.

5. NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL REPORTS

The Annual Report of the National Safety Council for the year 1955, published in February of 1956, indicated that Boston led all cities of the nation having populations between 750,000 and 1,000,000 in traffic engineering, receiving a rating of 98 per cent. In the dissemination of public safety information, we ranked fifth and in the matter of legislation we ranked tenth. It should be mentioned here that our rating in legislation was probably due to the fact that we have no legislation governing pedestrian traffic and other law enforcement problems, for which other cities in the country are covered by statutory authority. A report on traffic deaths for the first two months of 1956, for cities in the category previously mentioned, indicated that Boston ranked second, with San Francisco in first place.

6. STORM HAZARDS

Through the coordination of the Traffic, Health and Fire Departments, the hazards attendant to severe storms, two of which we experienced during the year, were disseminated through the facilities of radio, television and newspapers, reducing substantially the number of accidents which would have resulted had the Commission been negligent in coordinating a program of this character. Some of the items brought to the attention of the public concerned the dangers of allowing young children to play in the streets, where the possibility of being lost or suffocated in snow banks was always present; the dangers of elderly people travelling in the snow developing pneumonia or receiving fractures or broken bones as a result of falls; the clearing of snow away from fire hydrants for immediate access by the Fire Department in the event of fire, etc. During both

storms, 75 per cent of Fire Department personnel was kept on duty and all fire houses were kept open for the convenience of those stranded, and the Fire Department garage on Southampton Street was utilized by many persons who could not find hotel accommodations and who, otherwise, would have been obliged to sleep in their cars.

Surveys were made by the Health Department to ascertain the availability of milk and other staple food supplies, with milk distributors and chain stores co-operating in every way. Because of these protective measures initiated by the Commission and supervised by the Traffic, Health and Fire Commissioners, accidents and fatalities, which normally would number in the hundreds, were kept at a minimum.

7. IMPROVEMENTS IN FIRE DEPARTMENT EFFICIENCY

Training Programs

a All men in the department have undergone training during the year in the use of gas masks. Many defects in masks were found and corrected.

b All men in the department are being trained in Red Cross First Aid; previously, only chiefs' drivers had been trained.

c Approximately 100 men have been trained in Civil Defense by using equipment built at the Naval Training Station.

d A course for the training of officers in a Teachers Program has been organized. This program was instituted with the cooperation of the Department of Education.

e Ladder Companies which have Civil Defense Units in their quarters have been trained in pump procedures so that, in case of an emergency, the man reporting can put these pumps into service.

f Company training in quarters during the evenings, regarding many new procedures, has been initiated.

g Legislation has been approved and an award of contract has been made for the erection of a training school at Moon Island.

h Continuous training and drill have been given in the use of equipment, heavy stream appliances, master fog stream and ladder pipes, rescue, etc.

Equipment Acquired or On Order

a 3 new single-piece pumpers with large hose-carrying capacity bodies.

b 3 new tractors.

c 2 new 100-foot aerial ladder trucks.

d 5 Mack trucks converted for use by Squad Companies.

e 30,000 feet of new hose.

f Reflective material or luminous markers to be attached to 400 new rubber coats.

g 100 Safety Belts with reflectors or luminous markers; all ladder trucks now equipped with safety belts.

h Rubber gloves with leather protective material for the purpose of handling equipment where contact may be had with electricity.

Miscellaneous

a When there is a suspicion of a gas leak it is necessary to use an explosimeter to determine whether or not gas is present in quantities which would be detrimental. Prior to this year, there was only one explosimeter available in the entire department and many times there would be a long wait until this was brought to the scene where it was needed. Now there is an explosimeter in each District Chief's car and quick determination can be made of the danger in any reported gas leak.

b An Order was passed to include two new fire houses in addition to the two carried in the previous Loan Order.

c Clorox Chemical Plant in Brighton surveyed. All fire fighters in Brighton district are now trained to combat emergency leaks with a kit purchased by the Chemical Company. Large quantities of chlorine are housed in this area.

d Survey was made of all life lines, guide lines, signal lines — many were found defective and replaced.

e Electric lines installed on Fire Boats for illuminating the water side of buildings afire.

f Laxity in theatres in fire prevention measures corrected.

g In order to give the city as much protection as possible from airplane fires, a hosewagon is housed at Engine 40, near the Airport, and is equipped with two 750-pound Kardox Units, and two 300-pound Ansul Powder Units to give additional fire extinguishment in the event of airplane fires.

h The Boston Edison Company employees have been instructed in the use of extinguishers.

i Mutual aid from various neighboring cities on the fourth alarm has been vastly improved.

j Fire prevention publicity has been increased and expanded. WBZ-TV programs have been expanded and WBZ radio has been added three times a day; WVDA each morning, WHDH two or three times a day between 10.00 A.M. and 12 noon; WCOP twice a day.

k Hydrant inspections are continuing and any defects found have been brought to the attention of the Water Department for correction.

l Two units were established to operate during the grass fire season.

m Electric equipment in various units has been overhauled.

n In-service inspections have continued during the year and will continue until completed.

8. COASTING STREETS

A survey of coasting streets, many of which have been designated as such for a great many years without observing changes in traffic movements or noting the increases in the number of motor vehicles now operating throughout the city, was conducted by the Traffic Commission. As a result of said surveys, many of the streets listed were eliminated from the official list, thereby decreasing the hazards attendant to coasting and the number of damage suits instituted against the city due to coasting accidents.

9. ALL-NIGHT PARKING

The all-night parking situation, especially in the residential areas of the city, was given considerable study by the Commission during the year, with Commissioner Reilly sitting in with the Corporation Counsel and three representatives from the Attorney General's Staff on several occasions, to endeavor to break down the complex legal obstacles which apply to the parking of cars on alternate sides of a way. Resulting from these deliberations, legislation has been proposed for the year 1957 which will apply throughout the Commonwealth and which will allow the Boston Traffic Commission to make rules and regulations to authorize unlimited parking on ways within their control between the hours of midnight and 8.00 A.M. Such regulations may provide for parking on alternate sides of the street on alternate days in conformity with standards to be adopted by the State Department of Public Works. The all-night parking of cars on both sides of a way in residential areas has presented a real problem to the Fire Department for several years and, in the event of a major conflagration in any of these areas, the loss of life and property would be devastating. Fortunately, up to the present time, we have not experienced a major catastrophe and it is believed that, after the proposed legislation is enacted and rules and regulations are set up by the Traffic Commission, tension will be eased and a larger degree of protection will be afforded the citizens and properties located in these congested districts.

10. SNOW REMOVAL

At the direction of his Honor, the Mayor, a meeting was called in May of this year, attended by Traffic Commissioner Reilly, with a view to formulating uniform regulations among 14 cities and towns adjacent to Boston in the matter of snow removal. It was emphasized at this meeting that many improvements in snow removal methods could be developed, provided we had the cooperation of the adjoining cities and towns. There was some question as to whether or not legislation would be required to place such regulations into effect, but, nevertheless, it was agreed that if uniform regulations were set up for future snow removal work, with all adjacent cities and towns cooperating, we would not be confronted with the traffic tie-ups, accidents and other problems to which we were subjected during the winter season of 1956. Some progress has been made along these lines but further study is necessary to inaugurate a plan that will be workable and agreeable to all municipalities concerned. It is hoped that the all-night parking law, to which reference is made in the previous paragraph, if enacted during the coming year, will remedy the situation to some extent.

11. DEMOLITION PROJECT

At a special meeting of the Commission, held on August 23, it was pointed out that a state of emergency existed in the city due to the rapid increase in the number of abandoned buildings, which constitute a menace to the public health and safety and are a cause of alarm and fear on the part of the residents of the city. Through the recommendation of this Commission, \$500,000 was appropriated in order to remedy this situation as rapidly as possible. A Director of Demolition, John A. Murray, was appointed by his Honor, the Mayor, and he has been performing a splendid service in coordinating the work of both the Health and Building Departments, which agencies are cooperating in every way to expedite matters.

Abandoned buildings and dilapidated structures throughout the city presented a problem that has been mounting over a great many years. Because of a lack of sufficient appropriations during prior years to perform this all-essential work on an annual basis, the special appropriation made this year was an absolute necessity.

Fire and health hazards were the determining factors in starting the ball rolling. The actual project did not get under way until the early part of October and, from this date to December 31, some 140 structures were razed or are in the process of being razed under contracts already awarded. We trust that, by the end of 1957, a real dent will be made in this project, making for better living conditions, decreasing fire hazards to a great extent and providing opportunities for either new construction or parking space areas which are sorely needed throughout the city. At the recommendation of the Chairman, all demolition contracts now contain a proviso that the contractor must provide extermination services in connection with the razing of structures where, prior to this recommendation, extermination services were awarded under a separate and distinct contract which, naturally, was a costly procedure.

In the spring of the year the Health Department initiated a drive to clean up all the vacant lots throughout the city, notifying owners of conditions and requesting their cooperation. Those failing to comply with the request of the Health Department had liens placed on their properties for the cost of cleaning up their lots. The plan worked out fairly well but it was an impossibility, with a shortage of help and the necessary funds, to keep a constant vigil on such lots throughout the city.

12. ACCIDENT COMPENSATION AND FRAUDULENT CLAIMS

This subject was given considerable study on several occasions during the year with Theodore Hoppe, Director of the Mayor's Automotive Advisory Committee, appearing at one meeting and outlining his experiences in this particular field and presenting definite recommendations with a view to setting up standard procedures in accident reporting, injury claims, etc. The Commission was of the opinion that after additional study, on which it is at present engaged, and with the cooperation of the Law Department, a standard procedure could be adopted that would be beneficial in reducing industrial accidents and abolishing, if possible, any fraudulent claims in the future. Another recommendation now being explored is the possibility of establishing the function of a safety engineer in the

city government. We are spending approximately \$200,000 a year for Workmen's Compensation claims and the same practice is prevalent throughout the country. If, and when, a plan is adopted to educate and instruct employees in various safety programs, with a Safety Engineer supervising the program, it is believed that fraudulent claims against the city will be a thing of the past and the number of accidents will be reduced to a minimum. However, before any definite program can be initiated, decision has to be made as to what department this activity would be connected, how we should finance it and how far we desire to go in enforcing its provisions. It was suggested that the program should be placed under the direction of a Safety Engineer to be assigned to the Workmen's Compensation Service.

13. PARKING FOR A FEE IN R-40 AND R-65 DISTRICTS

The Chairman discussed this matter with you in detail the early part of June and it was his contention that the razing of abandoned buildings in R-40 and R-65 districts would create an incentive for many absentee owners to secure revenue by removing the structures and using the land as parking lots for a fee. The tone of the neighborhood would be improved and the blight occasioned by the low maintenance of the properties in the hands of the absentee landowners arrested. It was pointed out to you and to the other members of this Commission that there was no adequate reason for not permitting the parking of passenger cars, for a fee, as a permitted use in congested residential districts and that it was only another instance where the 1924 Zoning Act is not realistic when applied to 1956 conditions. It was agreed that an amendment to the 1924 Zoning Act be proposed for submission to the 1957 session of the Legislature and, at the recommendation of this Commission, the Law Department has submitted the proposed amendment for consideration by the present legislative session.

14. ELEVATOR SAFETY

The Massachusetts Board of Elevator Regulations and the Building Department brought to the attention of this Commission an increase in the number of elevator accidents during the first six months of this year — some fatal — which occurred in housing projects throughout the city. Most of the accidents were caused by children

opening the escape hatches at the top of elevator cars and, at that time, the Chairman of the Board of Elevator Regulations drew up a tentative schedule of protective measures which would eliminate this hazard in the future. One of the specifications called for the installation of a manual key set enclosed stop switch in every power passenger push button elevator, which would open the circuit if the escape hatch was not in the closed position and would cause the electric power to be removed from the elevator driving machine motor and brake. This recommendation was brought to the attention of the Housing Authority and this new measure of protection was adopted.

Within the past five years there were 65 deaths connected with elevator operations throughout the entire city. At the present time there are 3,145 passenger elevators, 3,187 freight elevators, 2,080 dumb waiters and 90 escalators. There are only seven men in the Building Department to make annual inspections and the Building Commissioner claims that this number is far from sufficient to do a thorough and efficient job. Apparently, the State Board of Elevator Regulations agrees with the Building Commissioner, as it has recommended that at least 15 men be utilized on this particular work. All elevator operations will have to comply with a new code, recently established by the State, before 1961 and, if the city is to meet the requirements of the new Code, it is imperative that additional inspectors be hired at an early date. The Chairman was of the opinion that the new rates for elevator inspections, as established this year by ordinance, might give us sufficient added income to consider favorably the hiring of additional men. The Building Commissioner does not believe that the additional income will be sufficient to meet the requirements, but is to discuss the matter further with the Supervisor of Budgets when presenting his budget estimates for the year 1957.

15. FIRE DEPARTMENT APPROVAL OF NEW CONSTRUCTION PLANS

The Fire Commissioner discussed with the Commission a proposal to secure legislative authority to inspect and approve plans for any new construction and the larger renovation projects to ascertain whether or not said plans sometimes fail to include proper ventilation

facilities which are a necessity at the time of a fire, such as windows, flue vents, etc., and it was the Fire Commissioner's belief that, if the Fire Department had the authority to inspect plans before the Building Commissioner gave his final approval, it would, in many cases, save many lives in the event of a major fire and property loss would be substantially reduced.

Rather than go to the legislature for this inspectional authority, the Building Commissioner agreed to allow the Fire Department to inspect all such plans for approval or disapproval before action by him. The Commission unanimously endorsed the establishment of this procedure, which has already been put into effect.

SUMMARY

The results of this year's activities should bear fruit in the immediate future. The adoption of a new Housing Code, the control of incineration, the establishment of a Public Health Council, the continuing fight against polio, as noted by the amazing results of last year, the inauguration of standard procedures to combat storm hazards, the improvements in Fire Department efficiency, the elimination of dangerous coasting areas, the proposed legislation for controlling the all-night parking hazards in residential districts, the razing of dilapidated and abandoned structures, the initiation of a plan to reduce industrial accidents within the framework of the city government, proposed legislation to allow parking for a fee in R-40 and R-65 districts, the adoption of safety regulations for the operations of elevators and the adoption of a procedure to have Fire Department officials inspect all new building plans are some of the major accomplishments of this Commission for the year 1956.

As stated previously, public safety has become one of the most important phases of municipal administration throughout the country and it is our belief that, within the next few years, the citizenry will become more safety-conscious than they have ever been in the past. This is a natural trend because of the many thousands of new types of machinery being introduced to the public and the many thousands of added motor vehicles that are traversing our highways each day. Protective measures for the health and safety of the people are the main functions of this Commission and,

although our studies and deliberations cover only a short period of $2\frac{1}{2}$ years, we feel, nevertheless, that we have contributed sufficient food for thought to insure greater and more efficient progress in the public safety field for the future.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN A. BREEN, *Chairman,*

THOMAS J. HUGHES,

Building Commissioner, Secretary,

JOHN H. CAULEY, M.D., *Health Commissioner,*

FRANCIS X. COTTER, *Fire Commissioner,*

WILLIAM ARTHUR REILLY, *Traffic Commissioner.*

LAWRENCE W. COSTELLO,

Acting Secretary.

Number of permits and licenses issued from January 1 to December 31, 1956 by the Permit Division of the Committee on Licenses, Building Department, and revenue received for same:

CLASS.				Number of Permits and Licenses Issued	Revenue Received
Garages				298	\$3,541 00
Private	276 cars	228 permits	\$252 00		
Lubritoriums	44 cars	20 permits	81 00		
Wash Stand	55 cars	5 permits	41 00		
Repair shops	113 cars	12 permits	67 00		
Business	282 cars	25 permits	2,290 00		
Public	2,782 cars	8 permits	810 00		
Totals .	3,552 cars	298 permits	\$3,541 00		
Flammables				156	11,547 00
Total Gallonage: 3,357,311 gallons					
Open-air parking spaces				155	11,603 60
Total				609	\$26,691 60

Committee on Licenses:

THOMAS J. HUGHES, *Chairman*,
 WILLIAM ARTHUR REILLY, *Traffic Commissioner*,
 FRANCIS X. COTTER, *Fire Commissioner*.

FRANK J. COUGHLIN,
Secretary.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES J. FOX, *Chairman*,
 JOHN H. CAULEY, M.D., *Health Commissioner*,
 THOMAS J. HUGHES, *Building Commissioner*,
 FRANCIS X. COTTER, *Fire Commissioner*,
 WILLIAM ARTHUR REILLY, *Traffic Commissioner*.

THOMAS J. HUGHES,
Secretary.

LIST OF OPEN-AIR PARKING SPACES FOR THE YEAR 1956

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
145-149 Albany st., Boston.....	3	Benjamin Alston.....	6,280	35
114 Allston st., Allston.....	21	Christos Patsades.....	15,000	6
Rear 10-16 Atlantic av., City.....	3	North End Auto Park, Inc.....	21,600	100
436 Atlantic av., Boston.....	3	Raymond V. Finnegan.....	3,840	9
474-476 and 514-516 Atlantic av., Boston.....	3	Atlantic Auto Park, Inc.....	120,695	46
Avery pl., Boston.....	3	Samuel S. Boland.....	3,000	19
75-77 Beach st., Boston.....	3	John T. Walker.....	6,611	4
137 Beach st. and 176 South st., Boston.....	3	Beach Street Realty.....	3,500	16
17 Beacon st., Boston.....	3	Garage Service Corp.....	3,600	22
785 Beacon st., Boston.....	21	Robert H. Sullivan.....	3,150	25
854 Beacon st., Boston.....	21	Amy B. Simmons.....	715	4
54 Berkeley and Rear 56 Berkeley st.....	5	Daniel P. Carr & John R. McCarthy..	2,940	15
16-22 Bowdoin st., Boston.....	3	Anthony DeRosa.....	7,000	49
19-31 Bowker st., Boston.....	3	James W. Meek.....	4,600	32
801 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Ralph M. Naves.....	3,500	23
1220 Boylston st., Boston.....	4	Sun Oil Company.....	7,000	45
1279 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Fenway Park Parking, Inc.....	59,347	150
1301 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Edmor's Service Station.....	5,000	35
1325 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Peter Mouris.....	12,500	36
1330 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Fenway Flyer Diner.....	7,000	41
217 Brighton av., Allston.....	21	Henry T. Davis.....	700	5
79-81 Brighton st., Boston.....	3	Harry H. Levine.....	1,500	10
61-71 Bristol st., Boston.....	3	Louis Gilman.....	5,330	28
47-53 Broad st., Boston.....	3	Joseph T. Deragon.....	3,500	21
155 Broadway, Boston.....	5	Max Siders.....	7,000	49
207 Broadway, Boston.....	3	Najeb Succar.....	9,500	44
372 Broadway, Boston.....	3	Rapid Service Realty Corp.....	10,000	39
115-121 Brookline av., Boston.....	21	Samuel Shactman.....	4,000	20
Rear 40-42 Bunker Hill st., Charlestown.....	2	Elizabeth Pelosi.....	4,334	14
65-71 Cambridge st. and 10 Hawkins st.....	3	Bowdoin Amusement Co.....	18,286	93
115 Cambridge st., Boston.....	3	Augustus Mantia.....	11,798	75
200 Cambridge st., Boston.....	3	Armando V. Catalano.....	6,100	42
200 Cambridge st., Boston.....	3	Chester's Auto Park.....	7,906	40
261 Cambridge st., Boston.....	3	John P. McGarry.....	575	4
296 Cambridge st., Boston.....	5	Stephen Kreticos.....	1,400	10
322-330 Cambridge st., Boston.....	5	Henry E. McClintock.....	3,500	20
91 Carver st., Boston.....	5	Arthur Miller.....	2,355	10

PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1956 — Continued

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Ca
11-23 Central st., Boston.....	3	Kilby Parking Company, Inc.....	11,127	
329 Charles st., Boston.....	3	Albert A. Porcello.....	13,798	
95-97 Charles st., Boston.....	3	Donato Iasconi.....	2,308	
72 Chelsea st., Charlestown.....	2	Northern Contracting Corporation...	14,254	
144-185 Chelsea st., Charlestown.....	2	Mystic Parking, Inc.....	71,500	
35 Chestnut st., Charlestown.....	2	Mary L. Buckley.....	8,118	
36-38 Chestnut st., Charlestown.....	2	Joseph L. Mellino.....	7,000	
163 Chestnut Hill av., Brighton.....	22	Connolly's Garage, Inc.....	59,000	
75 Clarendon st., Boston.....	5	New England Lubricating Service...	12,092	
2004 Columbus av., Roxbury.....	11	Joseph P. Pavidis.....	9,696	
2026 Columbus av., Boston.....	11	Esso Standard Oil Company.....	23,266	
122-124 Commerce st., Boston.....	3	Carl Loehialto.....	3,500	
376 Commercial st., Boston.....	3	G. Savarese & Son, Inc.....	3,500	
548-554 Commercial st., Boston.....	3	Patrick Anastasia.....	1,848	
588 Commercial st., Boston.....	3	Rocco Zucco.....	20,281	
23 & 24 Common st., Charlestown.....	2	Henry Cure.....	2,440	
573-575 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	Beaconsfield Motors.....	8,270	
577-589 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	Kenmore Auto Park.....	14,400	
599-601 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	William Strang.....	15,682	
665 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	John A. Guzzi.....	7,000	
1251-1253 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	21	Israel Weiner.....	7,700	
1447 Commonwealth av., Brighton.....	21	George F. Kelley.....	7,000	
231-237 Congress st., City.....	3	Gloria Gretskey.....	3,200	
338-342 Congress st., City.....	6	Dominic Bramante.....	4,939	
285-289 Corey rd. and 255 Kelton st., Brighton..	21	George Cohen.....	19,567	
20 Coventry st., Boston.....	9	J. Wilson Parker.....	9,170	
114 Cross st., Boston.....	3	Sumner Tunnel Service Station.....	1,400	
30 Curve st., Boston.....	3	Boston Paper Board Co.....	9,763	
10 Deerfield st., Boston.....	5	Lawrence A. Brophy.....	18,220	
30 Deerfield st., Boston.....	5	Loyal Protective Life Insurance Co...	15,700	
29 Devon st., Roxbury.....	14	Abraham Yorks.....	23,449	
110 Dorchester av., South Boston.....	6	George F. McKenzie.....	3,250	
1950 Dorchester av., Dorchester.....	16	George F. Gilbody.....	21,429	
49 Edgerly rd., Roxbury.....	4	Arthur A. Cooke.....	1,882	
34 Edinboro' st., Boston.....	3	Joseph Touma.....	3,000	
10 Eliot st., Boston.....	3	Frank J. McDonald.....	5,478	
197-199 Endicott st., City.....	3	Frank P. Pennachio and Dominic Pen- nachio.....	1,000	
14 Euston rd., Brighton.....	21	Eugene M. Colmes.....	5,000	

PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1956 — Continued

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
4 Fargo st., South Boston.....	6	Matthew D. Spinale.....	46,479	36
30 Fayette st., Boston.....	5	Arthur Wolfe.....	16,600	75
17-19 Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Frank Ercolini.....	2,411	16
17-51-53 Fleet st., Boston.....	3	Paul Grande.....	1,190	6
34-90 Friend st., Boston.....	3	Joseph Barca, Jr.....	4,500	32
Rear 76-100 Gainsborough st., Boston.....	4	Wallace R. Marden Co.....	14,250	87
248 Hanover st., Boston.....	3	Edward Giordani.....	1,970	7
207 Harrison av., Boston.....	3	Philip M. Horan.....	2,100	14
937-939-941 Harrison av. and 3-11 Fairweather st., Boston	8	Giovanni Carbone.....	8,500	23
214-226 Harvard av., Allston.....	21	Herbert Kaplan.....	14,298	100
3-11 Hollis st., 2-18 Dillaway st., 10 Dore st., and 769-777 Washington st., City.	3	New England Auto Parking System, Inc.....	21,465	130
17-53 Hudson st., Boston.....	3	Benne Schiff.....	5,557	38
111 Hudson st., Boston.....	3	George Moses.....	10,000	50
244 Humboldt av., Roxbury.....	12	Arsene B. Cressilov.....	1,500	10
353 Huntington av., Boston.....	4	Opera Holding Company, Inc.....	8,064	50
363 Huntington av., Boston.....	4	Albert J. Ryan, Jr.....	7,143	50
20 Huntington av., Boston.....	10	Estate of Thomas Reynolds.....	15,192	25
130 Hutchings st., Roxbury.....	12	Louis Gateman.....	11,534	25
35 Jersey st., Boston.....	5	Homestead Motor Car.....	32,679	215
4 Jerusalem pl., Boston.....	3	Peter B. Moschella.....	2,400	10
19 Joy st., City.....	3	William and Lorene Nickerson.....	800	4
12-14 Kennard av., Boston.....	3	Herbert G. Anderson.....	3,900	13
Rear 8 Kinross rd., Brighton.....	21	Philip Wernick.....	1,420	10
32 Kneeland st., City.....	3	Loy Wong.....	1,400	9
54-156 Kneeland st., City.....	3	Robert Hart.....	3,500	25
2 Knight st., Readville.....	18	John E. Coury.....	13,790	50
8 Lawrence av., Roxbury.....	14	Mary Bothol.....	5,062	25
40-54 Leon st., Boston.....	4	Kar-Hol Corporation.....	74,923	148
30-132 Leverett st., Boston.....	3	Harris Osofsky.....	18,338	75
30 Lowney Way and Tremont st., Charlestown,	2	Mary E. Giblin.....	13,522	49
40 Malvern st., Allston.....	21	Gertrude B. Costello.....	8,850	40
909 Massachusetts av., Boston.....	8	Diekson Truck Rental System, Inc...	144,321	50
20-30 Maverick sq., East Boston.....	1	Louis Ciampi.....	13,000	91
277 Maverick st., East Boston.....	1	Anthony and Ralph Correale.....	2,858	20
37 Merrimac st., Boston.....	3	Estate of Harry E. Morton.....	9,036	45
31 Merrimac st., Boston.....	3	Jacob W. Blank.....	6,332	35
50 Middlesex st., City.....	5	H. L. Miller.....	1,825	8

PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1956 — Continued

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
232-234 Milk st., City.....	3	Margaret H. McMaekin.....	2,500	1
39 Necco st., Boston.....	6	Warehouse 13, Inc.....	13,840	7
4-6 Newbury st., City.....	5	Ritz-Carlton Hotel.....	8,736	4
149-153 Newbury st., 278-284 Dartmouth st., City.....	5	Estate of Aroline C. Gove.....	2,400	
349 Newbury st., Boston.....	5	Newell B. Kurson.....	700	
399-405 Newbury st., Boston.....	5	Harvard Club of Boston.....	12,500	5
419-439 Newbury st., Boston.....	5	Hotel Puritan.....	23,760	9
575-587 Newbury st., Boston.....	5	Percy L. Rideout.....	17,500	7
350-360 North st. and 30 Harris st., Boston....	3	North Street Auto Park, Inc.....	16,300	7
101 Northampton st., Boston.....	8	John Triolo.....	5,000	2
381 North Beacon st., Brighton.....	22	Robert W. Balam.....	82,680	10
283 Northern av., South Boston.....	6	Harbor Motor Terminals, Inc.....	32,895	8
91 Norway st., Boston.....	4	Romeo L. Desfosses.....	3,500	2
55 Oilfields rd., Dorchester.....	14	Harry L. Silva.....	17,600	5
3-4-5 Oliver pl., City.....	3	Ball Parking Co.....	6,425	2
23 Park st., Charlestown.....	2	Carmen C. Bellino.....	13,800	1
39 Park st., Charlestown.....	2	Louise S. Raia, doing business as Raia Transportation.....	9,000	2
6 Pilgrim rd., City.....	4	Mary D. Mooney.....	12,000	4
40 Poplar st., City.....	3	James Tuffo.....	1,100	
37 Poplar st., City.....	3	Hyman Litinsky.....	2,100	
27-51 Purchase st., City.....	3	Allstate Plumbing Co., Inc.....	6,892	4
9-85 Queensberry st., Boston.....	5	Linwood Grill, Inc.....	20,706	5
0 Readville st., Hyde Park.....	18	Alice T. Moses.....	14,000	9
7 Richmond st., City.....	3	Richmond Auto Park, Inc.....	9,000	6
7 Rollins st., Boston.....	3	Samuel B. Michelman.....	2,000	
7-39-41 Rutherford av., Charlestown.....	2	Frank Faraci.....	3,908	2
4 Sleeper st., South Boston.....	6	Farrell's Dock & Terminal Co.....	10,395	7
0-58 Stanhope st., City.....	4	Stanhope Garage, Inc.....	14,645	8
26-128-132 Staniford st., City.....	3	Angelo Pagano.....	3,023	1
Sterling st. and 17 Williams st., Roxbury....	9	Milano Guarino.....	21,482	7
5 Stoneholm st., Boston.....	4	Lynwood Apartments, Inc.....	5,940	1
63 Strathmore rd., Brighton.....	21	Freda D. Hanna.....	1,500	1
22 Stuart st. and 75 Church st., City.....	5	Stuart Street Jenney Station.....	1,400	
40 Stuart st. and 66-72 Church st., Boston....	5	Como Rombola.....	11,400	7
51-655 Summer st., South Boston.....	6	James D. Mahoney.....	59,641	4
49 Sumner st., East Boston.....	1	Jerry Nigro.....	7,520	2
80-292 Tremont st. and 8-24 Shawmut av., City.....	3	Nagle's Auto Park.....	9,499	5

PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1956 — Continued

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
283-285 Tremont st., Boston.....	5	R. A. McCormick Company, Inc.....	4,578	17
357-359 Tremont st., Boston.....	5	Paul J. Caviechi, Jr.....	2,200	18
35 Tyler St., City.....	3	Sheltered Workshop.....	3,225	13
12-20 Vinal st., Brighton.....	21	Mae Ziemann.....	17,724	30
15-17-19 Walbridge st., Allston.....	21	Wilhelm M. Hansen.....	10,846	23
23 Walbridge st., Allston.....	21	Philip Chansky.....	15,412	50
3-5-7 Wall st., City.....	3	Joseph Freni.....	4,332	20
15-47 Wall st., City.....	3	John Colonna.....	2,160	8
20-22 Wapping st., Charlestown.....	2	Edsen J. Marlin.....	2,307	13
243-5-7 Warren st., Roxbury.....	12	Russell Dikmak.....	3,480	24
524 Warren st., Roxbury.....	12	George Starr.....	9,700	10
20 Washington st., Brighton.....	21	Patrick J. Murphy, Jr.....	24,663	50
2750 Washington st., Roxbury.....	11	Madeline R. Millman.....	9,415	25
3694 Washington st., Forest Hills.....	11	Catherine B. Ramsdell.....	68,420	201
3699 Washington st. and 11 Morton st., Forest Hills.	11	Lincoln Oil Co.....	14,900	50
Rear 3710 Washington st., Forest Hills.....	11	Walter D. Nolan.....	14,000	50
11-23 Way st., City.....	3	Mabel Chin.....	7,100	50
106-114 W. Brookline st., Boston.....	9	Josephine Walker.....	12,663	49
105 Western av., Brighton.....	22	Harvard University.....	227,500	900
37 Westland av., Boston.....	4	Symphony Auto Park, Inc.....	9,650	50
19-25-33 William T. Morrissey Boulevard, Dorchester.	13	Simmons Parking Corp.....	200,000	595
28 Woodlawn st., Jamaica Plain.....	11	Mrs. George J. Laverdure.....	2,945	6
4 Wyman pl., Jamaica Plain.....	10	Angelo Criscitiello.....	10,000	49

"GROUPED" PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1956

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Car
8-10 Edgeworth st., Charlestown.....	2	Patrick J. Byrnes.....	3,124	2
34-36 Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Patrick J. Byrnes.....	3,508	2
34-36-38 Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Patrick J. Byrnes.....	3,556	2
146 A st., South Boston.....	6	Lester S. Chilson Co., Inc.....	3,500	2
4 Baldwin st., South Boston.....	6	Lester S. Chilson Co., Inc.....	5,000	2
22 Court st., Boston, and 7-9 Court sq.....	3	Court Street Parking Co. (Samuel P. Coffman).....	17,500	9
47-55 La Grange st., Boston.....	3	City Parking Garage, Inc. (S. P. Coffman).....	7,650	3
45-53 Broadway and 1-11 Shawmut st., City..	3	Philip Ferris.....	8,485	5
67-69 Broadway and 5-7-9 Piedmont st., Boston	5	Philip Ferris.....	4,898	1
45 Carson st., Dorchester.....	13	Shawmut Parking, Inc. (Victor J. Ferris)	59,775	10
48 Carson st., Dorchester.....	13	Shawmut Parking, Inc. (Victor J. Ferris)	19,596	3
267 Tremont st., Boston.....	5	Shawmut Parking, Inc. (Victor J. Ferris)	6,164	3
49 Billerica st., City.....	3	John I. Fitzgerald.....	3,500	2
66-68 Nashua st., City.....	3	John I. Fitzgerald.....	4,000	2
154 Beverly st., City.....	3	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	9,500	4
130 Dartmouth st., City, and 7-27 Harwich st.	4	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	12,690	6
10-24 Harwich st., City.....	4	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	7,698	3
24-26 Somerset st., City.....	3	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	5,453	3
14-20 Truro st., City.....	4	Fitz-Inn Auto Parks, Inc.....	5,350	2
107-117 Arlington st., City.....	5	General Trading Co.....	11,635	6
1-3 Ashburton pl., City.....	3	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	4,048	2
370 Atlantic av., City.....	3	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	60,011	5
92-98 Bowdoin st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	6,900	3
218-222 Boylston st. and 58-60 Park sq., Boston	5	Boylston Auto Park.....	6,963	5
29-51 Brattle st. and 15-23-25 Hanover st., City	3	Brattle Company.....	41,977	2
18 Broadway, Eliot, Carver, and Stuart sts., City	5	Red Crown Oil Products Co.....	17,915	1
35 Buckingham st., City.....	4	Back Bay Auto Park, Inc.....	11,752	6
210-214 Causeway st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	6,439	3
206 Columbus av., Berkeley and Isabella sts., Boston.	5	General Trading Co.....	10,904	6
169-195 Congress st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	16,394	9
1-3 Gainsborough st., Boston.....	4	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	24,207	1
50 Hanover st., City.....	3	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.....	44,148	2
80 High st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	21,717	1
53-59 India st., City.....	3	General Trading Co.....	3,372	1
24-32 Lowell st., and Cotting and Billerica sts., City.	3	General Trading Co.....	5,670	3
30-50 Mason st., Boston.....	3	Eliot-Carver Co., Inc.....	11,484	5

"GROUPED" PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1956 — Continued

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
18-28 Nashua st. and 18-26 Billerica st., City...	3	Nashua Parking Co., Inc.	15,297	66
36-40 Nashua st., City	3	General Trading Co.	8,628	45
44 Nashua st., City	3	General Trading Co.	3,360	21
99 Nashua st., City	3	General Trading Co.	39,500	150
10 Somerset st., City	3	Eliot-Carver Co., Inc.	8,000	43
77 Stanhope st., City	4	General Trading Co.	12,185	66
150 Stuart st., City	5	Red Crown Oil Products Co.	20,333	113
319-321 Stuart st., City	5	General Trading Co.	44,124	259
390 Stuart st., City	4	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.	9,617	5
421 Stuart st., City	4	Boston Auto Parks, Inc.	33,350	153
23-25 Oxford st., City	3	Albert Gilbert	2,200	12
121-123 Tyler st., City	3	Albert Gilbert	17,873	125
1927 Beacon st., Brighton	21	Gulf Oil Corp.	26,530	35
148 Chestnut Hill av., Brighton	21	Gulf Oil Corp.	18,973	25
210 Columbus av. and 120 Berkeley st., Boston	5	Gulf Oil Corp.	31,214	100
1650 Commonwealth av., Brighton	21	Gulf Oil Corp.	19,546	50
182-188 Summer st. and 612-624 Atlantic av., Boston.	3	Gulf Oil Corp.	18,326	50
336-332 Tremont st., Boston	5	Gulf Oil Corp.	14,557	78
12 Bulfinch st. and 52-60 Howard st., City...	3	Paul K. Handy	6,069	39
30-38 Chardon st., City	3	Paul K. Handy	8,808	55
174-176 Columbus av., Boston	5	Handy Parking	4,840	25
1-19 Green st., 2-18 Chardon st., and 11-13 Pitts st., City.	3	Paul K. Handy	21,433	137
10 Hawkins st., City	3	Paul K. Handy	4,405	10
37-41 Dalton st., Boston	4	William Lyndon	21,500	150
Rear 95-135 Huntington av., Boston	4	William Lyndon	21,500	150
4 Irvington st., Boston	4	William Lyndon	7,100	50
275 South st. and Utica st., City	3	William Lyndon	46,000	300
Trinity Place Station, Boston	4	William Lyndon	7,000	50
3-5-7 Chatham Row and 57 Chatham st., City	3	Francis H. Maher	2,084	13
49-51 Chatham st., City	3	Francis H. Maher	1,733	10
132-136 State st., City	3	Francis H. Maher	1,400	8
9 Glenville av., Brighton	21	Brainerd Auto Park Co., (Nathan Mazur)	7,150	50
Rear 80-90 Gordon st., Brighton	21	Joseph G. Mazur	34,000	50
100 Kilmarnock st., Boston	5	Brainerd Auto Park Co. (Nathan Mazur)	25,419	50
97 Lanark rd., Brighton	21	Nathan Mazur	10,712	75
23 Redford st., Brighton	21	Nathan Mazur	10,712	75

“GROUPED” PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1956 — Continued

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No Car
35-39 Arch st., City.....	3	Arch St. Realty, Inc. (David Meyers)	3,400	
70 Federal st., City.....	3	Federal Parking, Inc. (David Meyers)	10,000	
2-26 Friend st. and 50-60 Elm st., City.....	3	Post Office Sq. Parking, Inc., (D. Meyers)	7,000	
16-24 Hollis st. to 17-35 Common st., City.....	3	Pilgrim Parking, Inc. (David Meyers)	28,500	1
25-27 Kilby st., City.....	3	Pilgrim Parking, Inc. (David Meyers)	5,000	
30 Kilby st. and 10-20 Central st., City.....	3	Pilgrim Parking, Inc. (David Meyers)	6,637	
41-47 Stuart st. and 40-50 La Grange st., City..	3	Arch St. Realty, Inc. (David Meyers)	14,031	
17 Tyler st. to 76-82 Harrison av., City.....	3	Devy-Annex, Inc. (David Meyers)....	8,814	
837-857 Washington st., Warrenton and Common sts., City.	3	Arch St. Realty, Inc. (David Meyers)	32,900	2
73-85 Brookline av., Boston.....	21	K. B. Newton Realty Co.....	43,403	2
539 Newbury st., City.....	5	K. B. Newton Realty Co.....	7,000	
565 Newbury st., City.....	5	K. B. Newton Realty Co.....	7,000	
6-8 Congress st., corner State st., City.....	3	Park Inn, Inc.....	11,428	
29-37 Pemberton sq., City.....	3	Park Inn, Inc.....	10,700	
65 Scollay sq., City.....	3	Park Inn, Inc.....	9,926	
16 Motte st., City.....	3	William Saitz.....	10,958	
1180 Washington st., City.....	3	William Saitz.....	14,181	
9-11 Appleton st., Boston.....	5	David H. Sedersky.....	6,300	
10-20 Chandler st., Boston.....	5	David H. Sedersky.....	41,745	14
16 Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Herbert Skolnik.....	1,200	
20 Ferrin st., Charlestown.....	2	Herbert Skolnik.....	1,000	
212-214 A st., South Boston.....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	7,149	
275 A st., South Boston.....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	38,068	15
4 Alden st. and 4-6 Alden ct., City.....	3	Abraham Solomon.....	4,443	
23 Chardon st., City.....	3	Abraham Solomon.....	9,271	
25-27 Farnsworth st., South Boston.....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	9,034	
60 Necco st., South Boston.....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	28,500	10
23-27 Sleeper st., South Boston.....	6	Abraham Solomon.....	10,000	
74 Sudbury st., City.....	3	Abraham Solomon.....	4,274	
93 Sudbury st., City.....	3	Abraham Solomon.....	6,294	
285-295 Broadway and 272 Harrison av., City..	3	Boston Parking Co. (Kalil Solomon)...	2,700	
27-29 Curve st. and 149 Hudson st., City.....	3	Boston Parking Co. (Kalil Solomon)...	1,993	
30 Curve st., Boston.....	3	Boston Parking Co. (Kalil Solomon) ..	9,763	
143-145-147 Hudson st., City.....	3	Kalil Solomon.....	4,200	
3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 Noanet st., City.....	3	Boston Parking Co. (Kalil Solomon)...	8,719	
1 Noanet st., Boston.....	3	Kalil Solomon.....	11,209 add'l.	7 add'l
59-61 Albany st., City.....	3	John A. Sullivan.....	2,940	

"GROUPED" PARKING SPACE LIST FOR 1956 — Continued

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
4-79 Albany st., City.....	3	John A. Sullivan.....	3,856	22
9 Hudson st., City.....	3	John A. Sullivan.....	5,450	33
Kneland st., 24-30 Hudson st., 45-49 Albany st., City.....	3	John A. Sullivan.....	10,600	70
2 Chestnut Hill av., Brighton.....	21	The Texas Co. (M. L. O'Connell)....	31,910	70
4 Commonwealth av., City.....	5	The Texas Co. (K. F. Keyes).....	13,466	25
0 Ipswich st. and 1241 Boylston st., City....	5	The Texas Co. (K. F. Keyes).....	20,106	50
2 Seaver st., Roxbury.....	12	The Texas Co. (K. F. Keyes).....	18,600	40
9-163 Milk st. and 6-8 Custom House st., Boston.....	3	Willard M. Towne.....	4,187	28
11 Custom House st., City.....	3	Willard M. Towne.....	1,400	10
0 Brookline av., City.....	21	United Consumers, Inc.....	3,500	25
5 Van Ness st., City.....	5	United Consumers, Inc.....	7,700	50
5 Belvidere st., City.....	4	Huntington Auto Parks, Inc.....	4,435	21
-93 Belvidere st., City.....	4	Huntington Auto Parks, Inc.....	25,000	150
2-70 St. Germain st., City.....	4	Huntington Auto Parks, Inc.....	4,479	25

BASEBALL, RACING, AND FOOTBALL

Location	Wd.	Licensee	Area	No. Cars
299 Boylston st., City.....	5	Eliot Carver Co., Inc. (G. E. Cheevers) (Baseball and Football).....	48,023	100
ear 1365 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Michael D. Saunders (Baseball and Football).....	7,677	45
369 Boylston st., Boston.....	5	Michael D. Saunders (Baseball).....	9,700	50
ear 147 Brookline av. and 27 Fullerton st., Boston.....	21	Newton Realty Co. (J. W. Newton) (Baseball).....	42,965	50
50 Brookline av., Boston.....	21	Arthur Searlatos and Louis J. Taris (Baseball).....	6,168	25
5 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	Lawrence A. Brophy (Baseball).....	7,840	32
00-594-598 Commonwealth av., Boston.....	5	George H. Kerr (Baseball and Football).....	18,850	98
0 Van Ness st. and 189 Ipswich st., City.....	5	Lalime & Partridge, Inc. (Baseball and Football).....	22,111	94
23 Waldemar av., East Boston.....	1	Eastern Racing Association, Inc. (65 days, April 1 to June 4 and October 3 to October 29).....	371,316	2,600
36 Babcock st., Allston.....	21	Newton Realty Co. (Football).....	14,500	100

BEACON HILL ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

JOHN CODMAN, *Chairman*
ISIDOR RICHMOND, *Vice-Chairman*
FRANK J. COUGHLIN, *Secretary*

The membership of the commission, as appointed by the Mayor, is as follows:

	Nominated By	Term Ends
John Codman	Boston Real Estate Board	May 1, 1962
Robert E. Minot	Beacon Hill Civic Association	May 1, 1961
Charles A. Callanan	The Mayor	May 1, 1960
Andrew H. Hepburn	*Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities	May 1, 1959
Isidor Richmond	Boston Society of Architects	May 1, 1958

* Mr. John G. Greene, the original nominee of the Society, resigned on November 16, 1956, for personal reasons and Mr. Hepburn was appointed by the Mayor to fill the unexpired term.

The commission held eight meetings in 1956. Six of these meetings were public hearings, called to consider applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. The receipts from such applications for certificates were \$85.

The cases before the commission during 1956 were as follows:

1. Certificates of Appropriateness issued	. . .	17
2. Certificates of Appropriateness pending	. . .	2
3. Certificates of non-applicability given	. . .	24
4. Approvals given for ordinary repairs	. . .	25
5. Advisory, no action required	. . .	5
Total	. . .	73

The purpose of the commission is to aid in the preservation of a cultural heritage, a nationally famous historic district, which, in giving pleasure to our citizens, attracting visitors to Boston, reflects credit upon our

city. Although the law under which we operate has teeth, our policy is to impress upon applicants that we function as a sort of architectural clinic, that we are here to give advice and to help prevent them from making mistakes which might be detrimental to their own as well as their neighbor's property. We took our cue for this approach from Charleston, South Carolina, the first city in this country to adopt the preservation of a Historic District by architectural control. Its Board of Architectural Review has been in operation with marked success since 1931 without a single court case.

Many of our applications have been for the erection of signs on Charles street. So far, we have been able to convince merchants that small, well-designed signs are better advertising than large, garish ones that have no relation to the architectural design of the building and contribute to the messy appearance of a block. Would that we had this law years ago, for Charles street could have been the most attractive local shopping street in the city. We hope that time and continuous education will bring this about.

The Beacon Hill Law specifically exempts ordinary maintenance and repairs to the outside of buildings from the commission's control. This has been interpreted to include painting. Already there have been a few instances where an unfortunate choice of color has brought criticism. We may feel obliged to petition the legislature to amend the law in this respect, but, in the meantime, we hope that the pamphlet we are having prepared will help. This publication will outline the purposes of the law, the procedure for applicants to follow, and will advise as to the proper way to make outside repairs, including suggestions as to appropriate colors.

John G. Greene, nominee of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, felt obliged to resign in November for personal reasons. During the year that he was with us he was a most valuable member due to his life residence on the Hill and his long interest and activity in preservation work.

We are most happy in your Honor's appointment of Andrew H. Hepburn of the firm of Perry, Shaw, Hepburn and Dean, as he brings to the commission great knowledge and skill in the design of the late Georgian

period. We feel especially fortunate in now having three members of the architectural profession in the service of the public on the commission.

The commission extends its thanks to former Building Commissioner Charles A. Callanan, and to present Building Commissioner Thomas J. Hughes for the cooperation afforded in the past year. Space has been made available for commission meetings and the personnel of the department, especially the efficient and tactful offices of our secretary, Frank J. Coughlin, have been most helpful.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN CODMAN, *Chairman.*

CLASSIFICATION OF DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL

(As effective on December 31, 1956)

Quota	Title	Grade	Compensation
1	Building Commissioner	—	\$916 67
1	Deputy Building Commissioner	32	146 25
1	Executive Secretary	30	553 54
1	Head of Technical Services	30	122 50
1	Head of Construction and Safety Inspections Division	30	127 25
1	Head of Mechanical Inspections Division	30	127 25
1	Superintendent, Electrical Inspec- tions Division	30	136 75
1	Technical Assistant to Building Commissioner	28	127 25
1	Senior Construction Engineer	28	127 25
3	Senior Construction Engineer	28	\$223 12-553 54
2	Head Administrative Clerk	26	108 25-117 75
1	Zoning Administrator	28	127 25
2	Chief Building Inspector	24	108 25
1	Chief Egress Inspector	24	108 25
1	Chief Electrical Inspector	24	108 25
1	Chief Elevator Inspector	24	87 00
1	Chief Gas Fitting Inspector	24	108 25
1	Chief Plumbing Inspector	26	117 75
1	Chief Sprinkler Inspector	24	87 00
3	Building Plan Examiner	24	87 00-90 50
2	Head Clerk	22	98 75
1	Chief of Permit Division	20	90 50
1	Senior Legal Assistant	22	98 75
1	Legal Assistant	20	90 50
3	Senior Egress Inspector	20	80 00-87 00
1	Senior Cashier	19	87 00
16	Building Inspector	19	80 00-87 00
20	Interior Electrical Inspector	21	76 50-94 00
3	Exterior Electrical Inspector	19	70 50-87 00
1	Assistant Permit Supervisor	18	83 50
7	Elevator Inspector	18	68 00-83 50
6	Gas Fitting Inspector	18	76 50-83 50
8	Plumbing Inspector	18	68 00-83 50
8	Plumbing Inspector	18	68 00-83 50
3	Sprinkler Inspector	18	68 00-83 50
1	Welding Inspector	18	68 00
2	Street Numbering Inspector	17	65 50-80 00
5	Egress Inspector	17	65 50-80 00

Quota	Title	Grade	Compensation
6	Zoning Egress Inspector	17	\$76 50-\$80 00
4	Principal Clerk	17	68 00-80 00
3	Principal Clerk and Stenographer	17	76 50-80 00
1	Cashier	16	76 50
1	Encroachment Investigator	15	73 00
9	Senior Clerk and Typist	13	58 00-63 00
1	Senior Clerk and Stenographer	13	68 00
1	Motor Equipment Operator	12	65 50
1	Clerk-Messenger	8	43 00
4	Clerk and Typist	8	43 00
1	Clerk	—	43 00

Statement of Building Operations in the City of Boston for the Year Ending December 31, 1956.

	1956.		1955.		1954.		1953.		1952.	
	Num- ber.	Cost.	Num- ber.	Cost.	Num- ber.	Cost.	Num- ber.	Cost.	Num- ber.	Cost.
Type I.....	33	\$21,454,600	45	\$10,289,000	38	\$11,090,161	29	\$9,800,500	71	\$27,428,975
Type II.....	16	5,231,000	9	1,724,000	12	2,211,000	3	192,000	52	9,466,300
Type III.....	99	2,917,690	126	4,758,775	6	2,250,820	118	3,631,250	116	3,488,045
Type IV.....	41	437,150	50	197,665	44	410,805	49	153,745	51	140,500
Type V.....	545	5,324,850	760	7,365,065	638	5,974,965	429	3,469,880	461	3,633,915
Total new construction.....	734	\$25,365,200	990	\$24,335,405	822	\$21,937,751	628	\$17,247,375	751	\$44,157,735
Alterations, repairs, etc.....	4,716	11,327,441	5,570	12,955,418	6,466	9,116,650	5,271	10,526,674	5,772	9,755,517
Total structural construction.....	5,450	\$16,692,641	6,560	\$37,290,823	7,288	\$31,054,401	5,899	\$27,774,049	6,523	\$53,913,252
Plumbing.....	2,376	\$2,432,589	2,635	\$2,141,201	2,658	\$2,795,490	2,811	\$3,317,941	2,889	\$3,277,622
Gas fitting.....	6,885	845,613	7,357	799,938	6,512	737,476	6,137	791,894	5,690	810,167
Heaters, ovens, etc.....	603	419,019	612	371,881	318	429,435	417	589,075	238	246,629
Elevators, new freight.....	36	186,770	24	105,855	28	108,919	41	233,168	44	290,155
Elevators, new passenger.....	36	717,290	34	747,100	27	413,926	97	1,568,860	33	541,765
Elevators, alterations, freight.....	109	116,390	142	80,476	128	76,534	108	83,599	125	42,411
Elevators, alterations, passenger.....	214	272,997	233	1,086,920	227	223,193	183	177,015	251	222,507
Signs, projections, etc.....	492	230,068	549	245,410	410	249,325	417	219,749	638	218,404
Fire escapes, etc.....	295	30,770	307	117,085	905	197,830	819	191,710	520	109,211
Take-downs, wood.....	321	266,025	182	136,208	112	93,939	162	75,636	96	55,718
Take-downs, brick, etc.....	251	458,110	183	450,445	57	141,800	101	154,406	341	646,897
Sprinklers.....	117	287,038	102	281,409	96	242,315	178	507,157	172	520,914
Excavations.....	49	21,400	91	86,720	32	52,690	47	27,440	39	57,500
Use of premises.....	63	—	53	—	74	—	58	—	33	—
Totals.....	11,847	\$6,374,079	12,594	\$6,650,648	11,644	\$5,752,902	11,616	\$7,997,657	11,110	\$7,039,900
Grand total all work.....	17,297	\$53,056,720	19,154	\$43,911,471	18,932	\$36,807,303	17,515	\$35,771,706	17,633	\$60,953,152
Department revenue.....	.....	\$200,021.16	.....	\$207,545.58	.....	\$118,476.12	.....	\$94,077.25	.....	\$86,937.25

NUMBER OF DOCUMENTS AND FEES RECEIVED BY THE
BUILDING DEPARTMENT—JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER
31, 1956.

	Number	Fees Paid
New construction	755	\$31,888 00
Alterations	6,658	32,988 01
Elevator, annual tests—minor alterations.	1,725	6,572 00
Amendments	166	1,250 00
Sprinklers	180	694 00
Night elevator tests	15	162 00
Special foundation	52	270 00
Board of Appeal	306	4,175 00
Boilers, etc.	643	677 50
Plumbing, old	1,800	2,734 50
Plumbing, new	577	3,819 50
Plumbing, no fee	2	—
Gas fitting, old	6,829	7,900 50
Gas fitting, new	3	7 00
Gas fitting, no fee	—	—
Building law books	945	2,694 00
Petit law books	511	258 00
Elevator licenses, new	1,449	1,539 00
Elevator licenses, renewal	4,376	2,313 50
Elevator licenses, out of town	1	50
Elevator licenses, new, no fee	45	—
Elevator licenses, renewal, no fee	136	—
Elevator licenses, duplicates	35	17 50
Master gas fitter licenses, new	7	12 00
Master gas fitter licenses, renewal	977	1,606 00
Journeyman gas fitter licenses, new	24	11 70
Journeyman gas fitter licenses, renewal	1,258	519 25
Permission to inspect plans in vault and certified copies of documents	291	906 00
Garage licenses	297	3,741 00
Licenses for storage of gasoline, inflam- mables and explosives	158	12,018 10
Open-air parking licenses	149	10,932 50
Electrical inspection	15,917	70,314 06
	<u>46,277</u>	<u>\$200,021 16</u>

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS AND REPORTS, 1956.

New buildings	5,121
Alterations	13,694
Boilers, engines, etc.	8
Plumbing, new	2,254
Plumbing, alterations	5,665

Plumbing tests	603
Gas fitting, new	805
Gas fitting, alterations	7,971
Gas fitting, tests	6,459
Egress	31,359
Elevator inspections	4,519
Elevator tests	2,928
Sprinklers	3,282
Standpipes	118
Tests of both	1,761
Zoning	2,978
Plans	1,630
Special form applications	5,355
Fires	810
Gas accidents:	
Fatal	12
Nonfatal	42
Elevator accidents:	
Fatal	4
Nonfatal	29
Building accidents — special reports	9
Complaints made — {Violations	1,454
{Unsafe Buildings	352
Finals	1,240
Communications acted on	1,754
Special detail — Civil Defense Inspections	1,040
Complaints referred to Law Department for action	14

ELECTRICAL INSPECTION DIVISION

Permits granted to perform electrical work	15,917
Exterior inspections made	8,615
Interior inspections made	33,431
Theaters, amusement places, carnivals, etc., inspected	—
Hospitals, homes, clinics, etc., inspected	166
Complaints received and investigated	724
Grants of location approved	183
Streets affected	314
Underground services approved and referred to Public Works Department	1,111
Underground services installed	474
Plans of underground conduit loaned to utilities, etc.	70
Manholes constructed	116
Underground services installed	474
Poles set, new locations	1,042
Poles reset, replaced or straightened	
Poles removed	910
Poles standing in public ways	22,209
Notices of overhead construction	4,650
Notices of underground construction	1,450
Reports on overhead construction	4,800
Reports on underground construction	1,825
Accidents investigated	167
Notices of street lamp locations received	1,657
Street lamp locations investigated	1,657
Vaults installed in public ways during year	11
Vaults in public ways, 13,800 volts primary	251
Underground conduit installed, feet	161,787

FINANCIAL REPORT, 1956 — EXPENDITURES

1. PERSONAL SERVICES:	
10. Permanent employees	\$547,884 19
11. Temporary employees	—
12. Overtime	5,917 58
	<hr/>
	\$553,801 77
2. CONTRACTUAL SERVICES:	
21. Communications	\$54 70
27. Repairs and servicing of equipment	151 64
28. Travel expenses — inside the state	11,670 95
29. Other contractual services	57,248 59
	<hr/>
	\$69,125 88

3. SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS:

30. Automotive supplies and materials	\$106 05
34. Household supplies and materials	77 06
36. Office supplies and materials	8,633 65
39. Other operating supplies and materials	119 37
	<hr/>
	\$8,936 13

4. CURRENT CHARGES AND OBLIGATIONS:

49. Dues, Subscriptions, Licenses, etc.	\$109 50
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5. EQUIPMENT:

56. Office equipment	\$92 00
59. Miscellaneous equipment	10 00
	<hr/>
	\$102 00

Grand total \$632,075 28

Appropriation \$651,183 00

Department income \$200,021 16

Unsafe buildings razed by city	133
Unsafe buildings shored by city or other- wise secured against trespass	10
Total expenditures for shoring, securing, and razing	<u>\$91,960 00</u>

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1956

On January 1, 1956, there were (estimated) in the City of Boston:

Brick and other fire-resistive build- ings	46,427	
Erected during the year	189	
	<hr/>	46,616
Taken down during year	251	
	<hr/>	
Existing January 1, 1957		46,365
Wood buildings	94,947	
Erected during year	545	
	<hr/>	96,492
Taken down during year	321	
	<hr/>	
Existing January 1, 1957		<u>96,171</u>

Total number (estimated) of buildings in Boston
on January 1, 1957 142,536

BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF GAS FITTERS

Examinations conducted	3
Applicants examined — Master	19
Journeyman	52
Applicants passed and certified — Master	14
Journeyman	36

BOARD OF APPEAL

The Board of Appeal, established in accordance with section 117 of chapter 479, Acts of 1938, as amended, in its functioning, may vary the provisions of the Act referred to in specific cases which appear to them not to have been contemplated by this Act although covered by it, or in cases where manifest injustice is done, provided that the decision of the Board in such a case shall have the assent of four members under Building Law and shall be unanimous under Zoning Law and shall not conflict with the spirit of any provision of the Act.

The following is a statistical summary of the work of this department for the year 1956.

In *re* Building Law — chapter 479, Acts of 1938, as amended:

Appeals received	115
Appeals withdrawn	0
Appeals pending	12
Appeals sustained	22
Appeals sustained with proviso	75
Appeals dismissed	6
Total	115

In *re* Zoning Law — chapter 488, Acts of 1924, as amended:

Appeals received	204
Appeals withdrawn	5
Appeals pending	17
Appeals sustained	36
Appeals sustained with proviso	119
Appeals dismissed	34
Total	*211

* Includes decisions in 7 cases pending from 1955.

BOARD OF EXAMINERS

The Board of Examiners was created by city ordinance in 1913 and re-established under legislative act in 1938. It acts upon applications of persons desiring to be licensed in Boston as construction superintendents, approving or rejecting said applications under certain rules and regulations adopted as procedure by the Board. The members are appointed by the Mayor and consist of an architect or engineer, a contractor or mechanic, and a lawyer.

The following list is that of applications acted upon in 1956.

	Fees
Applications Received	228
Applications Rejected	77
Applications Approved	151
Reissues of Lapsed Licenses	368
Annual Renewals	1,854†
	\$2,645
	3,816
	<hr/>
	\$6,461
*509 Licenses at \$5	\$2,545
10 Licenses at \$10	100
	<hr/>
	\$2,645
†1,746 Renewals at \$2	\$3,492
108 Renewals at \$3	324
	<hr/>
	\$3,816

Change in Fees December 1, 1956.

